

ES Travel



Arts and crafts: Serras Hotel in Barcelona has modern interiors that reflect the industrial past

A brush with Picasso at the Serras

Destination Spain

BARCELONA's hotel scene is as eclectic as the energetic Catalan capital itself, including a collection of five-star hotels that remain at the top of their game. Among them is the Hotel Arts, the W and the Mandarin

Oriental, soon to be joined by Soho House. But a very different independent hotel opened this weekend on the Passeig de Colom.

The 30-room Serras could easily be called a vanity project – named after its owner, former global IT consultant Jordi Serra, who on returning to his native Barcelona

decided to open a five-star design hotel on the waterfront. History is provided by Picasso, one of many artists long inspired by the city, whose first studio, where he painted *Ciència y Caridad*, was in this classic 19th-century building.

Interiors are by Spanish designer Eva Martínez, who turns traditional

on its head – tiles used as headboards, with iron and wood reflecting the district's industrial past.

Food will be overseen by Michelin-starred Marc Gascons with local dishes prepared in the open kitchen.

■ *Doubles from €150 room only (introductory rate until February 23, then €250), hoteliers.com*